

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/686,580

Examiner

Carol S. Tsai

Applicant(s)

BOSTOEN ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 10/17/2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 17 October 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 10/17/2003
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-4 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

U. S. Publication 2002/0186760 to Bostoen et al. is the reference closest to the claimed invention. Bostoen et al. disclose a method for estimating attributes of a transmission line, said method comprising the steps of: carrying out reflectometry measurements of said transmission line, determining from said reflectometry measurements a 1-port scattering parameter of said transmission line in a reference impedance base, characterized in that said method further comprises the steps of: estimating a characteristic impedance of said transmission line. However, Bostoen et al. do not teach converting said 1-port scattering parameter from said reference impedance base to an estimated characteristic impedance base, thereby yielding a second 1-port scattering parameter with residual near-end reflections, determining a time zone wherein said residual near-end reflections are enclosed, neutralizing said time zone in the process of estimating said attributes; and including all of the other limitations in the respective independent claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Sugaya et al. disclose an optical transmission system for transmitting a WDM light from a transmission station to a reception station, utilizing a Raman amplifier, the Raman amplifier comprising an optical amplification medium; a pumping light source generating a plurality of pumping lights having wavelengths different from each other; an optical device introducing the plurality of pumping lights to the optical amplification medium; and control means for controlling the pumping light source, the transmission station sends out a plurality of reference lights having wavelengths at which respective Raman gain obtained by the plurality of pumping lights reach peaks or wavelengths close to the above wavelengths, and the control means controls the plurality of pumping lights based on the optical powers of the plurality of reference lights.

Bostoen et al. disclose a method and apparatus for modeling a network comprising a plurality of transmission lines is described, the method and system being adapted to measure loop parameters of first transmission line to provide measured loop parameters, determine a topology of the first transmission line by analyzing the measured loop parameters with reference to at least a one model of a plurality of models for transmission lines of different topologies, select a further model for estimating crosstalk related parameters based on the determined topology, and estimate at least one crosstalk related parameter based on the determined topology and the selected further model.

Taylor et al. disclose a digital receiver automatically detects and non-coherently

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demodulates a multiplicity of interfering digitally modulated signals transmitted simultaneously at approximately the same carrier frequency.

Bostoen et al. disclose a reflectometry-based qualification procedure of a local loop, which connects customer premises to a central office of a telecommunication network, and in the event of being unable to identify the loop termination associated with the customer premises, a second reflectometry measurement of the local loop is carried out with a different impedance load at the customer premises.

Nakayama et al. disclose a multi-port device analysis apparatus being capable of analyzing a multi-port device having three or more with improved efficiency and accuracy.

Krekels et al. disclose a network analyzer having one or two test ports each of which is connected via fourports to measuring points the measured values of which are analyzed in an evaluation means that includes a memory for storing system errors which have been determined during a calibration operation and must be taken into account for the object measurement, there is provided a calibration twoport between at least one of said test ports and said fourport of the associated measuring points, said calibration twoport being adapted to be switched from a basic state to two further switching states, and said calibration twoport differs in one of said further switching states from the basic switching state at least in transmission and in the other one of said further switching states differs at least in reflection from the basic switching state.

Jacobsen et al. disclose methods and apparatuses for reducing near-far cross-talk interference between channels in a communication system.

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Contact Information

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Carol S. W. Tsai whose telephone number is (571) 272-2224. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Marc S. Hoff can be reached on (571) 272-2216. The fax number for TC 2800 is (703) 872-9306. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the TC 2800 receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1585 or (571) 272-2800.

In order to reduce pendency and avoid potential delays, Group 2800 is encouraging FAXing of responses to Office actions directly into the Group at (703) 872-9306. This practice may be used for filing papers not requiring a fee. It may also be used for filing papers which require a fee by applicants who authorize charges to a PTO deposit account. Please identify the examiner and art unit at the top of your cover sheet. Papers submitted via FAX into Group 2800 will be promptly forwarded to the examiner.



Carol S. W. Tsai
Patent Examiner
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02/16/05